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the Commisssioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or the Collector of the district or any other officer duly authorized by him in this behalf.

" (c) & (d) The following quantities of ghee were allowed to be exported from this Province to Talcher State for the use of the employees of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company's Talcher Colliery :—

Year.	Quantity permitted to be exported.
	MDS.
1943	125
1944	125
1945	250
1946	125
1947	125

" The permits were issued to the following firms which were those suggested either by the General Managar, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, or by the Regional Coal Controller, Talcher :—

(1) Messrs. Nandram Hunatram, P.O. Talcher (Orissa).

(2) Messrs. Dedidutt Maneilall, Nayasarak, P.O. Chandni chowk, Cuttack.

" The exports to Talcher State were allowed as a special case as the quantities involved were small and as they were intended for the use of the employees of the Talcher Colliery which was raising and supplying coal for the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway."

Contract with Messrs. Parry & Co. for the preparation and supply of groundnut toffee.

* 52 Q.—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government entered into any contract with Messrs. Parry & Co. for preparation and supply of groundnut toffee and if so, what the terms of the contract were;

(b) whether tenders were invited before entering into contract with Messrs. Parry & Co.;

(c) whether any Indian firm offered to supply toffee at a lower rate;

(d) what is the size of toffee bars supplied by Messrs. Parry & Co.;

(e) whether any Indian firm offered to supply toffee bars of lesser size and weight at cheaper rate; and

(f) whether the contract still subsists?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) Yes. Two copies of G.O. No. 518, Food, dated 4th July 1946, containing the terms of the contract are placed in the library of the Legislature for reference.

" (*b*) No. This could not be done as the food situation was very critical and as supplies of supplementary protective foods had to be arranged for at very short notice. However practically all confectionaries in Madras who had substantial quotas of sugar were contacted but most of them were not interested and did not readily send up concrete proposals. The Director of Resettlement at first offered to supply toffee made by ex-Servicemen's Co-operative Societies, but later withdrew the offer. Contracts had therefore to be entered into with Messrs. Parry & Co., and Messrs. Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works, who were the only two firms who readily undertook the work and possessed the requisite facilities.

" (*c*) to (*e*) The only two Indian firms who offered to manufacture groundnut toffee on Government account were the Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works, Madras, and the K.C.P. Ltd. As the offer of the latter firm was received late and as, by the time their offer was received. contracts had already been entered into with Messrs. Parry and Co. and the Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works, it was decided not to accept the offer. The Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Company, Madras, offered to supply toffee at a lower rate than Messrs. Parry & Co. The offer was accepted and a contract was entered into with this firm also in addition to the contract entered into with Messrs. Parry & Co. Messrs. Parry & Co. supplied toffee cut into ½ lb. bars at Rs. 18 per cwt. while the Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Company supplied toffee cut into 3 oz. and 6 oz. bars at Rs. 12 per cwt. But while Messrs. Parry & Co. agreed to wrap the toffee bars in butter paper at their own cost and to pack the toffee in tins without charging the Government anything extra on this account, the Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works required that the Government should supply the wrapping paper and also charge the Government the actual cost of packing the toffee in dealwood boxes wrapped in gunnies. Allowing for these differences between the terms of the contracts with the two firms the rate quoted by the Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works was lower than that of Messrs. Parry & Co., only by about Rs. 2–11–0 per cwt. But the contract with the Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works provided only for delivery ex-factory whereas the contract with Messrs. Parry & Co. provided for delivery f.o.r. nearest railway station. It was necessary to accept both contracts to secure the quantity required. The Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works agreed to endeavour to produce at least 45 tons a month and Parrys could undertake

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to produce only 50 tons a month. No definite estimate of requirements could be made but it was anticipated that at least 100 tons a month would be consumed.

"(f) Neither the contract with Messrs. Parry & Co. nor that with Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works, Madras, now subsists; orders for terminating both the contracts were issued on 31st October 1946."

11-45 a.m. SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, in view of the food scarcity, the question of again supplying toffee bars is under the consideration of the Government?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the food position really becomes very acute, the point may be considered."

Financial assistance to evacuees from Burma and Malaya.

* 53 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government of India have issued any instructions to the Provincial Government on the continuance of the scheme of financial assistance to evacuees from Burma, Malaya, etc.;

(*b*) whether these instructions affect even those who have become a part of the General Indian population;

(*c*) whether the aged, infirm and unemployable will cease to receive assistance either immediately or after a period of time;

(*d*) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for the rehabilitation of the aged and the infirm and the care of the blind, crippled and decrepit among the evacuees; and

(*e*) whether the Government of India have undertaken wholly or partly to bear the cost of such schemes of rehabilitation?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes. The Government of India propose to wind up their general scheme of financial assistance to evacuees by 29th February 1948. Financial assistance to Indian evacuees from Malaya has already been discontinued with effect from 31st March 1947 except in cases where an evacuee has been accepted for a passage but due to lack of shipping, it has not been found possible to provide him or her with a passage before 31st March 1947. Assistance has also been discontinued to evacuees from Burma, who have not obtained or applied for evacuee identity certificates on or before 28th February 1947. Assistance to evacuees who are aged, infirm and unemployable and have no interest in Burma or the country from which they came by way of property or otherwise will be discontinued by the end of October 1947. In the case of employable evacuees and others who have got some interest in the country from which they evacuated, the Government of India afford certain facilities by way of repayable advances to cover the cost of sea passages, rail-fare and other incidental expenditure.